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[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/424/Add.2)*]

72/234. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/104 of 20 December 1995, 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005, 62/206 of 19 December 2007, 64/217 of 21 December 2009, 66/216 of 22 December 2011, 68/227 of 20 December 2013, 69/236 of 19 December 2014 and 70/219 of 22 December 2015 and all its other resolutions on women in development, and the resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including those adopted most recently at its sixty-first session, as well as the declarations adopted at its forty-ninth,[1] fifty-fourth[2] and fifty-ninth sessions,[3]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Welcoming and recalling the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to promote gender equality and the empowerment of

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and E/2005/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and E/2010/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. A.

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women and girls, including through the Sustainable Development Goal to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls and the commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made across the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, by which it endorsed the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming also the recognition in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and women's full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to the achievement of sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity,

Reaffirming further the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[4] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[5] and the international commitments made at relevant United Nations summits and conferences in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[6] and the key actions for its further implementation,

Reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, its continental programme, embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[7] and regional initiatives, which promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[8] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[9] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[10]

Recalling its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, which reaffirms that promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration and

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] A/57/304, annex.

[8] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[10] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Platform for Action and the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences and resolutions of the General Assembly, including through investing in the development of women and girls and promoting their economic and political participation and equal access to economic and productive resources and education, is of fundamental importance and has a multiplier effect for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in facilitating the advancement and empowerment of women in development in line with resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reiterating the importance and value of the mandate of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), welcoming the leadership of UN-Women in providing a strong voice for women and girls at all levels, and reaffirming its important role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Taking note of the reports of the High-level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment, which outline the transformative impact of unlocking the potential of women and girls to participate in the economy and achieve financial independence in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Strongly condemning the persistence and pervasiveness of violence against women and girls, stressing the need to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spaces, and encouraging Member States to adopt specific preventive measures to protect women, youth and children from any form of abuse, including sexual abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence,

Recognizing that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crises have the potential to undermine progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that women remain especially affected by the slow pace of the global economic recovery,

Underlining that, globally, the gross domestic product growth rate could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality, and recognizing that the economic and social losses owing to a lack of progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are significant,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning the pursuit of full and productive employment and access to decent work and social protection for all in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and calling upon States to adopt forward-looking macroeconomic policies that promote sustainable development and lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, increase productive employment opportunities and promote agricultural and industrial development,

Recognizing that men and women workers should have equal access to quality education, skills training, health-care services, social security, fundamental rights at work, social and legal protections, including occupational safety and health, and decent work opportunities, as well as, inter alia, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities for employment, leadership positions and decision-making at all levels,

Recognizing also that, in general, women and girls undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work and that women spend less time in paid work, and that this unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work contributes to

greater time burdens on women and substantially limits their participation in the social, political and economic spheres, and acknowledging the need to implement concrete measures to recognize, reduce and equitably redistribute the disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work done by women, including through the promotion of the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men and by prioritizing, inter alia, social protection policies and infrastructure development,

Noting with concern that women are often disproportionately affected by desertification, deforestation, climate change and natural disasters owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, emphasizing the need to address disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience in the case of disasters with a renewed sense of urgency in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizing the need to better understand the effects of natural disasters on women and to reduce their vulnerability to natural disasters by increasing their access to information and facilitating more effective protection, assistance and evacuation measures,

Reaffirming that in nutrition and other related policies special attention should be paid to the empowerment of women and girls, thereby contributing to women's full and equal access to social protection and resources, including income, agricultural inputs, land, water, finance, education, training, science and technology and health-care services, thus promoting food security and health,

Recognizing that the feminization of poverty persists and that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for women's economic empowerment and sustainable development, and acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, for women and girls, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms in order to achieve gender equality and the advancement and empowerment of women and girls,

Recognizing further the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes, negative social norms and gender stereotypes, which perpetuate multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls and stereotypical roles of men and women, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to eliminate gender inequality,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to gender equality and the empowerment of women and to development,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Reaffirms* that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,[12] that the achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities, that women and girls must enjoy equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation, as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment, leadership positions and decision-making at all levels, that it will work for a significant increase in investments to close the gender gap and strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels, that all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls will be eliminated, including through the engagement of men and boys, and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is crucial;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to promoting social inclusion in domestic policies and to promoting and enforcing non-discriminatory laws, social infrastructure and policies for sustainable development, as well as to enabling women's full and equal participation in the economy and their equal access to decision-making processes and leadership;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic, social and environmental development to ensure that all people, in particular women and children living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, in accordance with the goals of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[13] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[14] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[15]

5. *Reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies, and further reaffirms the commitment to adopting and strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislation and transformative actions for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels to ensure women's equal rights, access and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy and to eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination in all its forms;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the creation by Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all areas of life for the effective integration of women and girls in development, and of their undertaking and disseminating a gender analysis of legislation, policies and programmes related to macroeconomic

[11] A/72/282.

[12] See resolution 70/1.

[13] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[14] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[15] Resolution 69/313, annex.

stability, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

7. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fulfil their respective commitments to intensify their contributions to the implementation and follow-up of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[4] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly[5] and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[6] as well as the outcomes of their reviews;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of the full engagement of men and boys as strategic partners, allies, agents and beneficiaries of change for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and commits to taking measures to fully engage men and boys in efforts to achieve the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the declarations adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasions of the tenth,[1] fifteenth[2] and twentieth[3] anniversaries of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the 2030 Agenda;

9. *Also recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, participatory, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues in order to ensure an adequate standard of living for women and girls throughout the life cycle, including through social protection systems;

10. *Urges* States to scale up efforts to accelerate the transition of women from informal employment to formal employment, including access to decent work, improved wages, social protection and quality childcare, and to effectively support the recognition, reduction and equitable redistribution of unpaid care and domestic work by women, including through sustained investments in the care economy;

11. *Recognizes* that unremunerated work, including unpaid care and domestic work, plays an essential role in improving well-being in the household and in the functioning of the economy as a whole, and acknowledging the need to recognize and consider, where appropriate, policies and programmes that would contribute to reducing the unequal burden of unremunerated work, including unpaid care and domestic work, for which women and girls continue to carry a disproportionately high level of responsibility, and to promote shared responsibility within the household;

12. *Also recognizes* the critical role and contribution of agricultural development and of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, recognizes the critical role of rural women in agricultural development, and stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that women's critical role in providing food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to end hunger and famine and achieve food security as a priority, and to end all forms of malnutrition, and in this regard acknowledges the important role of the Committee on World Food Security, recalls the Rome

Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action[16] and the importance of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), and reaffirms the commitment to devote resources to developing rural areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

14. *Stresses* the need to take action to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, including in the world of work, through the strengthening of institutional mechanisms and legal frameworks, given that violence and discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, against women and girls in private and public spaces are a major impediment to the achievement of the empowerment of women and girls and their social and economic development that no country has managed to eliminate, and encourages the adoption of specific preventive measures to protect women and girls, youth and children from violence, abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, exploitation, harassment, trafficking in persons and harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, taking into account the need to address negative social norms, structural barriers and gender stereotypes that affect women in the world of work and to develop measures to promote the re-entry of victims and survivors of violence into the labour market;

15. *Recognizes* that investment in health contributes to reducing inequality and increasing sustainable and inclusive economic growth and to social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and urges Governments to provide equal access to adequate health-care services for women and girls in order to achieve the realization of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

16. *Also recognizes* that achieving the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, through, inter alia, equitable and universal access to affordable and quality health-care services and preventive health-care information, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement and empowerment, that a lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including violence and the risk of contracting HIV and AIDS, and that the neglect of women's full enjoyment of human rights severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunities for receiving an education and for achieving economic and political empowerment;

17. *Expresses deep concern*, that, globally, women and girls are still the most affected by the HIV and AIDS epidemic, that they bear a disproportionate share of the caregiving burden and that they are more vulnerable to violence, stigmatization, discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of the epidemic, notes that progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls has been unacceptably slow and that the ability of women and girls to protect themselves from HIV continues to be compromised by physiological factors, gender inequalities, including unequal power relations in society between women and men and boys and girls, and unequal legal, economic and social status, insufficient access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health, and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence in the public and private spheres, including trafficking in persons, sexual violence, exploitation and harmful practices, and calls upon Governments and the international community to urgently scale up responses towards achieving the goal of

[16] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annexes I and II.

universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment, care and support and to ending the HIV and AIDS epidemic by 2030;

18. *Urges* Governments and all sectors of society to promote and pursue gender-based approaches to the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases based on appropriately disaggregated data, including by sex and age, in their efforts to address the critical differences in the rapidly growing magnitude of non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which affect people of all ages, gender, races and income levels, as noted in the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[17] and notes that people living in vulnerable situations, in particular in developing countries, bear a disproportionate burden and that non-communicable diseases can affect women and men differently, because, inter alia, women bear a disproportionate share of the burden of caregiving;

19. *Expresses deep concern* that maternal health remains one area constrained by some of the largest health inequities in the world, and over the uneven progress in improving newborn, child and maternal health, in this context calls upon States to implement their commitments to prevent and reduce newborn, child and maternal mortality and morbidity, and in this regard takes note with appreciation of commitments in support of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016–2030), as well as national, regional and international initiatives contributing to the reduction in the number of maternal deaths and deaths of the newborn and children under 5 years of age;

20. *Encourages* Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation for all to rural areas and urban slums, in order to increase health and well-being, relieve the workload of women and girls and release their time and energy for other productive activities, including entrepreneurship;

21. *Expresses deep concern* that the lack of adequate sanitation facilities and related challenges, such as water scarcity and unsafe water, disproportionately affect women and girls, including their labour force and school participation rates, and increase their vulnerability to violence, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of efforts to achieve sanitation for all and to end open defecation, paying special attention to women and girls, through efforts to ensure access to sanitation and hygiene facilities, including menstrual hygiene management;

22. *Urges* all Governments to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in the field of education and to ensure their safe and equal access to, and encourage their participation in, all levels of education, including technical, vocational, tertiary and non-formal education and training, including in the fields of business, trade, administration, information and communications technologies, science, technology, engineering and mathematics and other new technologies, to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels and to eradicate poverty and allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development;

23. *Recognizes* the need to build dynamic, sustainable, innovative and people-centred economies, promoting youth employment and women's economic empowerment, in particular, and decent work for all, and to ensure that labour market regulations and social provisions create a level playing field for women, for example, by enacting and enforcing minimum wage legislation, eliminating discriminatory

[17] Resolution 66/2, annex.

wage practices and promoting measures such as public works programmes in order to enable women to cope with recurrent crises and long-term unemployment;

24. *Reaffirms* its commitment to diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy and to taking steps to ensure that local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies;

25. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement, as appropriate, legislation and policies protecting women's labour and human rights in the workplace, including with respect to minimum wages, social protection and equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, promoting collective bargaining and providing for recruitment, retention and promotion policies targeting women;

26. *Urges* Member States to adopt and implement legislation and policies, as appropriate, that are designed to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities and that recognize, value, reduce and redistribute women's disproportionate share of unpaid and domestic work and the work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, including through increased flexibility in working arrangements, such as part-time work, and the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers, to provide support through the development of infrastructure and technology and the provision of public services, including accessible and quality childcare and care facilities for children and other dependants, and to ensure that both women and men have access to social protection and maternity or paternity, parental and other forms of leave and allowances and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

27. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers to, as well as eliminate stereotypical attitudes towards, gender equality at work, to implement measures to achieve equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, as well as women's full participation in the formal economy, in particular in economic decision-making and resource allocation, and to take measures to increase women's access to productive resources and assets, including technology, land, property and financial services, including microfinance, as appropriate;

28. *Encourages* the United Nations system and donor countries to support Member States in increasing their investments in gender-responsive policies and programmes, in order to promote full employment and decent work for women, and in delivering relevant social protection and social services;

29. *Urges* Governments to develop, adequately resource and implement active labour market policies on full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in both rural and urban areas, as well as policies that encourage the full and equal participation of women and men, including persons with disabilities, in the formal labour market, to enact or strengthen and enforce laws and regulatory frameworks that ensure equality and prohibit discrimination against women, in particular in the world of work, including their participation in and access to labour markets, inter alia, laws and frameworks that prohibit discrimination based on pregnancy, motherhood, marital status or age, as well as other multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, to take appropriate measures to ensure that women, throughout the life cycle, have equal opportunities for decent work in the public and private sectors, while recognizing that temporary special measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality between men and women

should not be considered discrimination, to address the root causes of gender inequality, gender stereotypes and unequal power relations between men and women and to provide, as appropriate, effective means of redress and access to justice in cases of non-compliance and accountability for violations and abuses of human rights;

30. *Urges* the United Nations system and other international organizations, upon the request of Member States, to support and promote innovative programme responses to ensure women's access to decent work, to recognize, reduce and redistribute the unequal burden of unpaid care and domestic work, to promote gender-responsive social protection initiatives and measures for women and girls and to support and encourage the scaling-up of existing good practice programmes and initiatives;

31. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and/or review and to fully implement gender-sensitive legislation and policies that reduce, through specifically targeted measures, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and gender-based wage gaps;

32. *Reaffirms* the commitment to women's equal rights and opportunities in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation, to the removal of any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy and to the resolve to undertake legislative and administrative reforms to give women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, encourages the private sector to contribute to advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as protecting them against discrimination, sexual harassment and abuse in the workplace, including by supporting the women's empowerment principles established by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages increased investment in female-owned companies or businesses;

33. *Encourages* Member States to pursue, by effective means, policies of preventing and eliminating sexual harassment in the workplace, with an emphasis on effective legal, preventive and protective measures, including raising awareness regarding the rights of women who are victims of sexual harassment in the workplace or who are at risk of sexual harassment in the workplace;

34. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate women's access to land and property rights by providing training designed to make the judicial, legislative and administrative system gender-responsive, to provide legal aid for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks and to carry out awareness campaigns in order to draw attention to the need for women's equal rights to land and property;

35. *Stresses* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs, and that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, administration and information and communications technologies, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, especially by financial institutions;

36. *Encourages* all Governments to work towards full and equal access to formal financial services for all women, to adopt or review their financial inclusion strategies, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and to consider including financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, encourages commercial banking systems to serve all, including those who currently face barriers to accessing financial services and information, and to support microfinance institutions, development banks, agricultural banks, mobile network operators, agent networks, cooperatives, postal banks and savings banks, as appropriate, also encourages the use of innovative tools, including mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and the expansion of peer learning and experience-sharing among countries and regions, including regional organizations, commits itself to strengthening capacity development for developing countries, including through the United Nations development system, and encourages mutual cooperation and collaboration between financial inclusion initiatives;

37. *Urges* Governments and all relevant stakeholders to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to all types of financial services and products, including bank loans, bank accounts, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, regardless of their economic and social status, to support women's access to legal assistance and to encourage entities in the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

38. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

39. *Urges* Governments to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on the development of savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women and that support women's efforts to retain control over their savings;

40. *Recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level and the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to prevent and combat gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls, and calls upon Governments to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of, and ensure decent work conditions for, domestic workers, including migrant women and girls, in relation to, inter alia, working hours, working conditions and wages, and to promote access to health-care services and other social and economic benefits;

41. *Also recognizes* the special needs of women and girls living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies and in areas affected by terrorism, and that global health threats, climate change, more frequent and intense natural disasters, conflicts, violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism, and related humanitarian crises and the forced displacement of people threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades and have particular negative impacts on women and girls that need to be comprehensively assessed and addressed;

42. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to ensure systematic attention to, recognition of and support for the crucial role of women at all levels and at all stages in the prevention and resolution of conflict, in mediation and peacebuilding efforts and in the rebuilding of post-conflict societies, inter alia, by

promoting women's capacity, leadership, participation and engagement in political and economic decision-making and by preventing, combating and eliminating sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and, in this regard, to promote and facilitate an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes;

43. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to ensure equal access to full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and ensure that labour markets and work environments are open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities, and to take positive measures to increase the employment of women with disabilities and to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including recruitment, retention and promotion, and the provision of safe, secure and healthy working conditions, in consultation with relevant national mechanisms and organizations of persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, as noted in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[18] and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and notes the need to strengthen efforts aimed at addressing the rights and needs of women and children with disabilities;

44. *Urges* States to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure the full and equal participation of women in all levels of decision-making on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges for women and girls posed by climate change;

45. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery strategies;

46. *Also stresses* the importance of improving and systematizing the collection, analysis and dissemination of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and of developing gender-sensitive indicators that are specific and relevant with respect to supporting policymaking and national systems for monitoring and reporting on progress and impact, and in this regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

47. *Encourages* Governments in cooperation with the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, upon the request of Governments, to collect, analyse and disseminate sex-disaggregated data and statistics and to assess the impact of associated policy measures on women's:

(a) Social protection and access to decent work;

(b) Unpaid care and domestic work, through regular time-use surveys and the establishment of satellite accounts to assess the contribution of such work to national income;

[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

(c) Informal employment, disaggregated by sex, income, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location;

48. *Urges* all Member States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations, with particular attention to export-processing zones, building, in this regard, on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[19] and conventions of the International Labour Organization;

49. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable development strategies, to ensure alignment between national action plans on gender equality and national development strategies and to encourage the involvement of men and boys in the promotion of gender equality, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

50. *Encourages* Member States to ensure the inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and the empowerment of women in the formulation of national development strategies, including strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities, and to strengthen capacities for gender mainstreaming by allocating adequate financial and human resources to national women's machineries, as well as to, and within, line ministries, establishing and/or strengthening dedicated units for gender equality and the empowerment of women, providing capacity development for technical staff and developing tools and guidelines, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

51. *Also encourages* Member States to continue to increase, as appropriate, the participation of civil society, including women's and youth organizations, in government decision-making processes in national policy areas, including sustainable development;

52. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and donor countries to strengthen and implement gender-responsive planning and budgeting processes and to develop and strengthen methodologies and tools for this purpose, as well as for the monitoring and evaluation of investments for gender equality results, as appropriate, and encourages donors to mainstream a gender perspective into their practices, including joint coordination and accountability mechanisms;

53. *Recognizes* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their respective bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets and that the full implementation of those commitments will substantially boost the resources available to push forward the international development agenda, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

54. *Urges* the donor community, Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming and the funding for targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and also to strengthen the

[19] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

mechanisms needed to measure effectively the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

55. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the organizations of the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support the efforts of developing countries in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

56. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the financial resources necessary to assist Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, at which the outcome document entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"[12] was adopted, and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

57. *Urges* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to accelerate their efforts and to provide adequate resources to increase the voice and full and equal participation of women in all decision-making bodies at the highest levels of government and in the governance structures of international organizations, including by eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions, to build women's capacity as agents of change and to empower them to participate actively and effectively in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable development, poverty eradication and environmental policies, strategies and programmes;

58. *Urges* multilateral donors and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

59. *Recognizes* the ongoing intergovernmental efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and urges the United Nations system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments to all categories of staff, including the Professional and higher categories, within the United Nations system at the Headquarters, regional and country levels, bearing in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation and in line with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, with due regard to the representation of women from developing countries, and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men in gaining access to senior decision-making positions, including to the post of Secretary-General, bearing in mind the need to select the best candidate, and in this regard notes the Secretary-General's system-wide strategy on gender parity;

60. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments, investment frameworks and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this domain in accordance with national development strategies, welcomes the

work of UN-Women with United Nations country teams in assisting Member States, at their request, in the integration of a gender perspective into national development policies and strategies, including sustainable development policies and strategies, in accordance with their national priorities, and stresses its important role in leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system so as to ensure that the commitment to gender equality and gender mainstreaming translates into effective action throughout the world;

61. *Calls upon* organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks, as set out in its resolution 71/243;

62. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

United Nations A/RES/72/235

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 23 (c)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/424/Add.3)*]

72/235. Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005, 62/207 of 19 December 2007, 64/218 of 21 December 2009, 66/217 of 22 December 2011, 68/228 of 20 December 2013 and 70/220 of 22 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Stressing that human resources development lies at the heart of economic, social and environmental development and that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

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Stressing also that human resources development is vital to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries, and recognizing also the need for new ways to address human resources development,

Stressing that climate change is a significant development challenge and that improving educational and institutional capacities to tackle climate change is closely linked to human resources development efforts to ensure that populations can lead healthy and prosperous lives,

Recognizing that the benefits of human resources development are best realized in national and international environments that support equality of opportunity and treatment, access to education and non-discrimination and maintain an enabling environment for job creation,

Recognizing also that despite evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis continue to diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, recognizing also the role that migrants returning to their country of origin can play through the utilization of their skills, and stressing that the brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

Recognizing the need to align science, technological knowledge and innovation systems with national development objectives, fully integrated with national human resources development, labour needs and poverty eradication strategies and supported by appropriate institutional and policy frameworks, which can lead to positive transformations in people's lives,

Acknowledging that science, technological knowledge and innovation policies should take into account the specific features of the economy in developing countries, including the size of the traditional sector, the importance of indigenous knowledge, the limited access to skilled labour and capital, weak infrastructure and inadequate institutional frameworks, in order to generate solutions that address the specific challenges of those countries and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and indigenous and local knowledge,

Stressing that technological changes and breakthroughs are expanding at a rapid pace and impacting the world of work and that, in this regard, the development of human resources needs to keep pace and be supported by proactive strategies, investments and normative frameworks to address emerging issues relating to the future of work, education and training,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services, including health,

Recognizing that education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education be available to all, including indigenous peoples, girls and women, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and the need for continued support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Calls upon* the international community to place human resources development at the core of economic and social development and to develop short-, medium- and long-term strategies to effectively enhance human resources capacities, as educated, skilled, healthy, capable, productive and adaptable workforces are the foundation for achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

3. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to human resources development strategies in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[2]

4. *Stresses* the need for Member States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in order to address structural and multidimensional challenges to enhancing national productive capacities and to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

5. *Recognizes* that comprehensive approaches to human resources development that address poverty eradication and the creation of a skilled workforce are also critical in reducing unemployment and brain drain and in promoting greater social inclusion;

6. *Also recognizes* that the future of work, impacted by progress in science and technology, requires adaptability and faster learning of new skills, which, in turn, require a shift towards early childhood education, lifelong learning and a comprehensive life-cycle approach to education and training, enabled, inter alia, through increased investment in teacher training and improved access to digital learning resources, especially in developing countries;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the establishment of the Global Commission on the Future of Work by the International Labour Organization;

8. *Encourages* States, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to take appropriate steps, in accordance with their plans and policies, to help individuals

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[1] A/72/292.

[2] Resolution 70/1.

to make well-informed choices in education, training and careers, develop an integrated system of quality education and training that responds to constantly evolving needs, promote employer recognition and career development based on skills and mastery and foster a culture that supports and celebrates lifelong learning, in order to provide opportunities for all to develop their fullest potential throughout life, regardless of their starting points, thereby improving their chances of staying gainfully employed, and calls for more effective support for developing countries in this regard, including from the United Nations system;

9. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between quality education, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

10. *Stresses* that human resources development policies should focus on supporting the emergence of a sufficiently wide and flexible pool of skilled human resources, especially among women and youth, to support all sectors of the economy and be matched with present and future workforce needs, which requires well-sequenced investments in basic education, vocational training, on-the-job training and more advanced managerial, engineering and scientific education to increase the supply of technological knowledge that can be absorbed by national innovation systems;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy and to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs;

12. *Recognizes* that comprehensive and flexible science, technological knowledge and innovation strategies that encompass all sectors of the economy are critical to ensuring that skills are matched with labour market demand and ready to adapt to and benefit from a constantly evolving technology landscape;

13. *Emphasizes* that, when science, technological knowledge and innovation and human resources development approaches are mutually reinforcing, they can lead to a virtuous circle of economic growth, human progress and sustainable development;

14. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on physical and social infrastructure, including education, in particular skills upgrading and vocational training in areas such as science and technology, including information and communications technology, as well as in capacity development, health and sustainable development;

15. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, to continue to implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets and protect vulnerable groups and to take other appropriate actions, including boosting national economic performance, recognizes that social protection floors, defined according to national priorities and the individual circumstances of States, can provide systemic approaches to addressing poverty and vulnerability and can contribute significantly to successful human resources development strategies, acknowledges, in this regard, that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and in this regard recognizes the need for

continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

16. *Encourages* States to consider policies consistent with the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and their obligations under all relevant ratified conventions of the International Labour Organization, and recalls the importance of promoting decent work for all and of increasing quality jobs, including through measures aimed at ensuring occupational health and safety and through working relationships based on effective social dialogue;

17. *Stresses* that human resources development strategies should include measures aimed at reducing unemployment and underemployment among young men and women and the long-term unemployed, who have been disproportionately affected by slow growth in jobs recovery, and to integrate underutilized human resources into the labour market through policies that promote skills development and productivity and reduce barriers to employment, including gender barriers, including by providing incentives, as appropriate, for recruiting, retaining and retooling, assistance in job-finding, job-matching and vocational and on-the-job training, and by promoting, inter alia, youth entrepreneurship, noting in this regard the call for action by the International Labour Conference in 2012;

18. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to retain and further enhance national human resources by boosting job-rich recovery and promoting decent work, including by adopting policies and incentives that enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment and entrepreneurship and strengthen the role of labour administration and institutions in order to foster job creation, address the gender wage gap, reduce occupational segregation and increase the participation of vulnerable groups, including workers in the informal economy;

19. *Emphasizes* the need to address the interlinkages among human resources development, energy and food security, agriculture and rural development, and encourages countries to strengthen capacity in agriculture and rural development;

20. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate access to and apply environmentally sound technologies, and welcomes the launch of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[3] based on a multi-stakeholder collaboration among States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders, in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

21. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy human resources, calls upon Governments to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, by considering the promotion of universal health coverage and through the exchange of best practices in the areas of strengthening health systems, access to medicines, expanding and transforming the health workforce, recruitment, training and development of health personnel, transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine, and in this regard also stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

22. *Calls upon* the international community, including the relevant entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address

[3] Resolution 69/313, annex, para. 123.

the adverse effects of HIV and AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases and to halt the spread of epidemic diseases, as well as the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in Africa, Asia and other regions, and their effects on human resources;

23. *Encourages* Governments to facilitate investments in education, skills and decent job creation in the health and social sectors by taking note of the recommendations of the Secretary-General's High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth and to avert the shortfall of 18 million health workers by 2030, building the human capital required to accelerate universal health coverage and global health security, recognizes that these actions are not only essential to the achievement of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals but will also generate benefits across the Goals, including the creation of decent jobs, the reduction of youth unemployment, the enhancement of women's economic empowerment and participation and inclusive growth;

24. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations entities to support national efforts to build institutional capacities to address long-term national human resources development needs in addition to providing training to individuals;

25. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies and encourages the international community, including the private sector and relevant civil society actors, to provide and mobilize financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and to supply expertise from all sources, as available;

26. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

27. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

28. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as science proficiency, including by providing tertiary, technical vocational and adult education, and stresses the need to ensure that, by 2030, children everywhere, girls and boys alike, will be able to complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education, leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes;

29. *Encourages* Governments to consider appropriate measures at the national level, such as upgrading human skills, better aligning educational and training systems to labour market needs and strengthening labour institutions and regulations to respond to economic downturns;

30. *Encourages* countries to maintain or consider enhancing measures to boost job-rich recovery, such as policies and incentives to enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment, in addition to efforts to reduce budget deficits in the long term, as appropriate;

31. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated

action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and in this regard reiterates the need to consider innovative measures to maximize the benefits of migration while minimizing the negative effects of the migration of both highly skilled and low-skilled workers from developing countries;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

United Nations A/RES/72/236

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 24 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/425/Add.1)*]

72/236. Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations

[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

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Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the funding analysis of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;[3]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: ensuring a better future for all";[4]

3. *Looks forward* to considering the report of the Secretary-General of December 2017 on the relevant mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the remaining mandates contained in paragraphs 19, 20, 45 and 58 of its resolution 71/243, to be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Recalls* paragraphs 81 and 82 of its resolution 71/243, requests the Secretary-General to submit the reports requested in said paragraphs to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system".

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] A/72/61-E/2017/4.
[4] A/72/124-E/2018/3.

United Nations A/RES/72/237

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 24 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/425/Add.2)*]

72/237. South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Reaffirming also its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009, 66/219 of 22 December 2011, 67/227 of 21 December 2012, 68/230 of 20 December 2013, 69/239 of 19 December 2014, 70/222 of 22 December 2015 and 71/244 of 21 December 2016,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/318 of 28 August 2017, on the modalities of the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

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manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015 on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[2] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[3] that that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the convening of the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the second part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Bonn, Germany, from 6 to 17 November 2017,

Welcoming further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[4]

Welcoming the convening of the first preparatory symposium for the 2018 Development Cooperation Forum, hosted by the Government of Argentina, from 6 to 8 September 2017, with the support of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, on the theme "South-South and triangular cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda. Building innovative and inclusive partnerships",

Noting that 2018 will mark the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

Recognizing that, since the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, South-South cooperation has intensified significantly, achieving a prominent level of institutionalization, increasingly engaging national and international players, fostering regional integration and strengthening its contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions,

Recognizing also that South-South cooperation is increasingly critical to bolstering the productive capacities of developing countries and has positive impacts on trade and financial flows, technological capabilities and economic growth, and reiterating the importance of global partnerships,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

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[2] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822

[4] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation at its nineteenth session, held from 16 to 19 May 2016;[5]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation[6] and his report entitled "Comprehensive proposal on concrete ways to enhance the role and impact of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as well as the key measures taken to improve the coordination and coherence of United Nations support to South-South cooperation",[7] as well as the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on South-South and triangular cooperation in the United Nations system, of 2011, and the Secretary-General's response;[8]

3. *Reiterates its request* to the Joint Inspection Unit to present, by the end of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, a progress report on its recommendations to the United Nations development system on implementing measures to further strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

4. *Recognizes* the importance and unique history and particularities of South-South cooperation, reaffirms its view of South-South cooperation as a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals,[9] which build upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seek to address their unfinished business, and also reaffirms that South-South cooperation and its agenda must be set by countries of the South and should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

5. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

6. *Welcomes* the increased contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, encourages developing countries to voluntarily step up their efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation and to further improve its development effectiveness, in accordance with the provisions of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,[10] and welcomes commitments to strengthen triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

7. *Reaffirms* that South-South cooperation is a common endeavour of peoples and countries of the South, born out of shared experiences and sympathies, based on their common objectives and solidarity and guided by, inter alia, the principles of respect for national sovereignty and ownership, free from any conditionalities, that South-South cooperation should not be seen as official development assistance and that it is a partnership among equals based on solidarity, acknowledges in this regard the need to enhance the development effectiveness of South-South cooperation by

[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/71/39), chap. I.

[6] A/71/208.

[7] SSC/19/2.

[8] A/66/717 and A/66/717/Add.1.

[9] See resolution 70/1.

[10] Resolution 64/222, annex.

continuing to increase its mutual accountability and transparency as well as coordinating its initiatives with other development projects and programmes on the ground, in accordance with national development plans and priorities, and recognizes that the impact of South-South cooperation should be assessed with a view to improving, as appropriate, its quality in a results-oriented manner;

8. *Acknowledges* the progress made and encourages the continued integration of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation into the policies and strategic frameworks of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and requests those funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system that have not yet integrated South-South and triangular cooperation into their policies to do so, taking into account the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[11] and the complementary nature of South-South to North-South cooperation;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Chair of the United Nations Development Group to make specific recommendations on additional support that United Nations system organizations and all States could provide to South-South and triangular cooperation, which could include the voluntary secondment of staff and the appointment of Junior Professional Officers to the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, as well as measures to strengthen the system-wide efficiency and impact of the Office;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make necessary adjustments, as appropriate, to the framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation,[12] in consultation with all States and organizations of the United Nations development system;

11. *Reaffirms* the mandate and the central role of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as the focal point for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis;

12. *Reiterates the request* to the Chair of the United Nations Development Group to establish a more formalized and strengthened inter-agency mechanism, coordinated by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, with a view to encouraging joint support to South-South and triangular initiatives and sharing information on development activities and results achieved by various organizations through their respective business models in support of South-South and triangular cooperation, calls upon the United Nations development system to designate representational focal points to join the mechanism, requests the Chair of the United Nations Development Group to give the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation the opportunity to be represented more regularly in strategic and coordination mechanisms of the United Nations Development Group when matters affecting South-South and triangular cooperation are being discussed, and in this regard welcomes the progress made by the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team of the United Nations Development Group to this effect;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organizations of the United Nations development system to assist developing countries in implementing projects of South-South cooperation, including sharing best practices and experiences from the South, especially with the least developed

[11] Resolution 70/1.
[12] SSC/17/3.

countries, upon request and in a manner consistent with their mandates and strategic plans;

14. *Invites* the United Nations development system to encourage the transfer of technologies on mutually agreed terms for the benefit of developing countries to address poverty eradication and sustainable development;

15. *Welcomes* the launch, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and looks forward to its continued development and full operationalization;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Development Group, including its South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team, and the United Nations country teams, within existing resources and in close consultation and coordination with the Governments of developing countries and other United Nations organizations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue the mapping and documentation of good practices in South-South and triangular cooperation, in particular those that are relevant to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, taking into account the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[13] and the complementary nature of South-South to North-South cooperation;

17. *Urges* the United Nations to continue to support South-South cooperation projects that contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, adopted in Quito in 2016;[4]

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ninth annual Global South-South Development Expo, held from 27 to 30 November 2017, hosted by the Government of Turkey, on the theme "South-South cooperation in the era of economic, social and environmental transformation: road to the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action", which aims at showcasing sustainable development solutions that can be scaled up and replicated through South-South and triangular cooperation;

19. *Recognizes* the important role of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, and in this context requests the Secretary-General, with the support of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to take steps, within existing resources, to update existing and to create appropriate new policy tools, in order that the United Nations system may effectively support Member States, upon request, in using South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to assist in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

20. *Acknowledges* the positive efforts made by United Nations organizations to develop thematic strategies for the implementation of South-South cooperation, and in this regard urges the United Nations development system, in consultation with all States, to strive to increasingly leverage, as appropriate, South-South cooperation to bolster its impact in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

21. *Requests* the United Nations system to enhance its support in the areas where South-South cooperation has proved effective, namely capacity-building, regional integration, interregional linkages, infrastructure interconnectivity and the development of national productive capacities through exchanges of knowledge, technological innovations and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, and in

[13] Resolution 69/313, annex.

several areas of sustainable development such as poverty eradication and gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

22. *Welcomes* the support provided by developing countries to South-South and triangular initiatives aimed at improving nutrition and food security, and invites the replication of this approach in other relevant areas, drawing on the technical expertise of various United Nations organizations;

23. *Recognizes* the contribution of South-South cooperation in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in sustainable development, and encourages further efforts to mainstream gender perspectives in South-South and triangular cooperation;

24. *Notes* that, in response to the growing demand for support to South-South cooperation at the regional and subregional levels, the regional commissions have advanced South-South cooperation by undertaking policy research and analysis on issues of importance to their member States, convening high-level policy dialogues, forging strategic partnerships and promoting specific capacity development and other initiatives, and in this regard invites the regional commissions to support developing countries, upon request, in integrating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into their nationally owned sustainable development strategies, in areas such as regional development planning and fiscal frameworks, and to help to promote policy coherence and coordination and the enhancement of the data and statistical capacities of member States for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

25. *Reaffirms* that South-South cooperation has a role to play as a strategic link between regions and embraces a multi-stakeholder approach, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, academia and other actors that contribute to meeting development challenges and objectives in line with national development strategies and plans;

26. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue its support to regional and subregional organizations, enabling their member countries to build more partnerships and cross-border frameworks, with a view to promoting and scaling up best practices with the potential to benefit a large number of developing countries;

27. *Welcomes* the growing number of forums convened for Governments and other policymakers to discuss, in a participatory and inclusive manner, South-South cooperation initiatives and their contribution towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including addressing challenges, lessons learned and good practices in key areas;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present, as part of his comprehensive report to the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation at its twentieth session, in consultation with all States, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Development Programme, recommendations and an update on the concrete steps taken to strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, taking into account the need to enhance the role and improve the impact of the Office under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme, including in the areas of financial, human and budgetary resources and through the potential appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation, as well as to clarify the management relationships, reporting lines and functions and to improve transparency, accountability and efficiency, taking into account matters covered in the report of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on its nineteenth session,[14]

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/71/39).

Committee decision 19/1 of 19 May 2016 and decision 2016/13 of 10 June 2016 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services;[15]

29. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize adequate resources for enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation, and in this context invites all countries in a position to do so to contribute, in support of such cooperation, to the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation and to the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation, in accordance with its resolution 57/263 of 20 December 2002, and to support other initiatives for all developing countries, including technology transfer among developing countries on mutually agreed terms;

30. *Requests* the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to continue to effectively provide the secretariat required by States in marking the fortieth anniversary of the adoption in 1978 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;

31. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen and further invigorate South-South cooperation, in this regard reiterates its decision to convene the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019;

32. *Calls upon* all Member States to participate fully and constructively in the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation to be held in Buenos Aires in 2019, and welcomes the Secretary-General's recommendation to the United Nations system to provide substantive inputs to inform discussions among the States in preparation for the Conference, through the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as Conference secretariat;

33. *Welcomes* the generous offer by the Government of Argentina to host and assume all costs of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;

34. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

35. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation for development", unless otherwise agreed, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a comprehensive report on the state of South-South cooperation, including an assessment of the concrete measures taken by the United Nations development system to improve its support to South-South cooperation at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, and on the implementation of the present resolution, including all aspects set out in paragraph 28 above, on an exceptional basis and without setting any precedent for future reports of the Secretary-General.

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

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[15] See DP/2016/19.

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[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/426)*]

72/238. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/178 of 20 December 2010, 66/220 of 22 December 2011, 67/228 of 21 December 2012, 68/233 of 20 December 2013, 69/240 of 19 December 2014, 70/223 of 22 December 2015 and 71/245 of 21 December 2016,

Recalling also the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[1] particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, and noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[2] as well as the Framework for Action,[3] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[4] Agenda 21,[5] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[6] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[7] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[8] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference

[1] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.
[2] World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex I.
[3] Ibid., annex II.
[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.
[5] Ibid., annex II.
[6] Resolution S-19/2, annex.
[7] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[8] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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on Financing for Development," the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[10] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[11] the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[12] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries[13] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[14]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[15]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[16] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[17] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[18]

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[9] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[10] Resolution 60/1.

[11] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[12] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[13] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[14] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[15] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[16] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[18] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases[19] and the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[20] and looking forward to the high-level meeting on non-communicable diseases to be held in 2018,

Welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance, held in New York on 21 September 2016, and its political declaration, as set out in resolution 71/3 of 5 October 2016, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,[21] developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health,

Welcoming also the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2016–2020 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health,

Expressing concern that the current pace and scope of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 is unlikely to promote the transformational change needed and that its targets will not be achieved in many parts of the world,

Expressing concern also that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society, the private sector and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty, inequity and lack of access to resources and income-earning opportunities, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices can pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[22] acknowledging that forests provide essential ecosystem services, such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, and that forests prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risks of floods, landslides and avalanches, droughts, dust and sand storms and other disasters, and stressing in this regard the role of all types of forests, including boreal, temperate and tropical forests, in providing food security,

Reaffirming the importance of supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

[19] Resolution 66/2, annex.
[20] Resolution 68/300.
[21] World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.
[22] See resolution 71/285.

Noting the engagement of the Committee on World Food Security in advancing country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the outcome of the forty-fourth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 9 to 13 October 2017, taking note of its main outcomes, inter alia, the adoption of the policy recommendations on sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition, recalling the endorsement by the Committee in 2014 of the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems[23] and the Committee's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[24] and taking note of the adoption of the policy recommendations on connecting smallholders to markets and on sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock,

Taking note of the launch of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme under the 10-Year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns,[25] an inclusive initiative to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems,

Welcoming the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, which is helping the least developed countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities and fostering the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems, as well as developing capacities for partnerships in science, technology and innovation collaboration with other countries worldwide,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and improving nutrition outcomes,

Recalling the declaration of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and the call upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to identify and develop a work programme for 2016–2025, taking into account contributions from relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, using coordinating mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security,

Reaffirming that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism, and recognizing that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, there remains a strong commitment of all members to advance negotiations on the remaining Doha issues, including advancing work in all three pillars of agriculture, namely, domestic support, market access and export competition,

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain

[23] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

[24] Ibid., document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[25] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

their physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as of those living in vulnerable situations,

Taking note with appreciation of the publications entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2017: Building Resilience for Peace and Food Security*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Children's Fund, and *The State of Food and Agriculture 2017: Leveraging Food Systems for Inclusive Rural Transformation*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Remaining deeply concerned that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, the number of chronically undernourished people in the world has increased to 815 million, from 777 million in 2015, and that global nutrition challenges are increasingly complex as multiple forms of malnutrition, including stunting, wasting, underweight, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity, may coexist within the same country or household,

Remaining deeply concerned about the continuing food insecurity and malnutrition being faced by hundreds of millions of people, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and in South and West Asia,

Expressing its concern that, according to the *Global Report on Food Crises 2017*, the number of people facing crisis-level food insecurity or worse has increased dramatically, up from almost 80 million in 2015 to 108 million in 2016 in countries affected by, inter alia, conflict, environmental factors, including natural disasters, and excessive food price volatility,

Noting that an increasing number of countries, in particular in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific, are integrating food security and nutrition into their agriculture policies and investment plans and that, as a result, eradicating hunger, improving food security and ensuring adequate nutrition are being given greater prominence in regional development strategies, such as the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations food security and nutrition strategy, the Piura Declaration on Food Security, the Framework for Multi-Year Programme on Food Security and Climate Change and the Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth, adopted by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, the strategy on food security and nutrition of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the Arab food security initiative, all of which emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, diversifying food production and diets and providing quality nutritional education to consumers, introducing labour-saving technologies in food production and processing, enhancing women's access to income and strengthening capacity-building in improving food safety at all stages of the food chain, and also noting the establishment of the Islamic Organization for Food Security, headquartered in Astana,

Reiterating the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, in particular for women and youth, as well as the other root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition,

Noting the convening of the thirty-first session of the Regional Conference for Europe and Central Asia of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United

Nations in Voronezh, Russian Federation, in May 2018, with a focus on agricultural, food security and nutrition issues, including their links with climate change,

Reiterating the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, also reiterating the importance, inter alia, of empowering rural women, youth, small-scale farmers, family farmers and livestock farmers, fishers and fish workers as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and for improving nutrition outcomes, and acknowledging their fundamental contribution to the environmental sustainability and the genetic preservation of agricultural systems and to sustaining productivity on often marginal lands,

Recognizing that livestock contributes 40 per cent of the global value of agricultural output and supports the livelihoods and food security of almost 1.3 billion people, and in this regard acknowledging that the sector offers opportunities for sustainable agricultural development, poverty eradication and food security gains, and offers an opportunity for raising climate awareness,

Acknowledging that social protection programmes and measures are effective in reducing poverty and hunger,

Recognizing the importance of initiatives under the United Nations system, including the observance of World Pulses Day, World Tuna Day, Sustainable Gastronomy Day, World Bee Day, the International Year of Camelids and the United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019–2028, aimed at increasing public awareness of relevant agriculture, food security and nutritional benefits,

Recognizing the need to increase responsible public and private investment in the agriculture sector, inter alia, to find inclusive solutions to and fight hunger and malnutrition and to promote rural and urban sustainable development,

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,[26] and recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs,

Noting the Committee on World Food Security Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises, the Committee's policy recommendations on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition and its policy recommendations on food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that reaching Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals will be critical, inter alia, in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[27]

[26] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[27] A/72/303.

2. *Stresses* the importance of continued consideration of the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition, and encourages Member States and relevant stakeholders to give due consideration to this issue while implementing the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[28] and its Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Emphasizes* that sustainable agricultural production, food security and nutrition are key elements for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and calls for greater efforts to sustainably enhance the agricultural production capacities, productivity and food security of developing countries;

4. *Expresses concern* that the world is not on track to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by 2030 and that scarce and unsustainably managed natural resources, combined with insecure and uneven tenure rights for smallholders, are severely affecting those in vulnerable situations in rural areas, that climate change, drought, desertification and conflict and post-conflict situations are challenges with regard to food security and nutrition and diet-related non-communicable diseases in many places, preventing progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that countries in protracted crises are at risk of being left behind;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation, as an inclusive process, with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those affected, to make food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its support for the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme and its results framework, which is an integral component of the Programme that provides guidance on planning and implementing investment programmes;

7. *Encourages* Member States, in designing their national policies, to fully take into account the Rome Declaration on Nutrition[2] as well as the Framework for Action,[3] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for the use of Governments, as appropriate;

8. *Urges* increased political commitment by Member States to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, notes, in this regard, the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and encourages Member States to engage in the movement at the global and country levels to reduce the increasing level in global hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in particular among children, especially children under the age of 2, women, especially those who are pregnant and lactating, and youth;

9. *Emphasizes* the six global nutrition targets set by the World Health Assembly to address global malnutrition and the related monitoring framework;

10. *Takes note* of the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact, signed by more than 100 countries, companies and civil society organizations, to reduce the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and the financial commitments made to support this goal, as well as the second Nutrition for Growth event, which was held in August 2016;

11. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge and the aim of a world free from hunger, and recognizes the progress made in improving

[28] Resolution 70/1.

cooperation, coordination and coherence by all stakeholders to overcome the challenges of hunger and malnutrition;

12. *Stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including by improving and aiming to ensure the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing responsible public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, as well as collaboration in science, technology and innovation, and notes that the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement should also reach, where appropriate, local smallholders in appropriate knowledge management systems and communications systems with regard to promoting food security, improving nutrition outcomes and reducing inequality;

13. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience and sustainability of food and agricultural production with regard to climate change in the context of the rising demand for crops, bearing in mind the importance of safeguarding food security and ending hunger and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought-and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, and to establish and strengthen interfaces between scientists, decision makers, entrepreneurs and funders of science, technology and innovation, as well as measures to strengthen the resilience of those in vulnerable situations and of food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to promote, enhance and support more sustainable agriculture, including crops, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger, helps to prevent malnutrition and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security, and takes note of the importance of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

15. *Expresses concern* about antimicrobial resistance, in particular in the agricultural sector, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2016–2020 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance[21] developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health, in order to minimize the impact of antimicrobial resistance;

16. *Recognizes* that sustainable food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition, and welcomes the formulation and implementation of internationally consistent national policies, aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming food systems so as to make nutritious diets available to all, while reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition;

17. *Also recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural

development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and in this regard stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, potential excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries;

18. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture in enhancing food security and access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly inhabitants of small island developing States, and in this regard encourages the full implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States, which was launched on 4 July 2017;

19. *Encourages and recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

20. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower women, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions of work, and to guarantee their personal health, well-being and security, full access to land and natural resources and access to local, regional and global markets;

21. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and malnutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and South and West Asia, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

22. *Recognizes* the important role of indigenous peoples and local communities, small-scale farmers, livestock farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems, as well the important role of new technologies in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

23. *Stresses* the importance of the application of science, technology and innovation and related knowledge management and communications systems in ensuring food security by 2030, and encourages the adoption of the most advanced and appropriate information technology, such as the Internet, mobile platforms, meteorology, big data and cloud computing, in agriculture systems in order to support the efforts of smallholder and family farmers to increase their resilience, productivity and incomes and include them in the development of research and innovation agendas;

24. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security and nutrition, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, which will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities by, inter alia, enhancing access for agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, youth, indigenous

peoples and local communities, in conflict and post-conflict situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health-care services, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for development of local crops, efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

25. *Recognizes* that, by 2050, the world urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the most transformative trends of the twenty-first century, underscoring the growing need to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition among the urban poor through promoting the integration of the food security and nutrition needs of urban residents, in particular the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, to end hunger and malnutrition, promoting the coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways, to reduce food losses and to prevent and reuse food waste, and promoting the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste and other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste;

26. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

27. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of funding for such research from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector, to promote development and to build up resilience to support better recovery from crisis, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

28. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security and nutrition, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers and fish workers, especially small-scale farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

29. *Recognizes* the efforts made by Member States and United Nations agencies that have already announced their commitments to the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025),[29] and encourages all relevant stakeholders to actively support the implementation of the Decade, including by making commitments and establishing action networks;

30. *Stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health

[29] Resolution 70/259.

Organization, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, including with the support of the Secretary-General's High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

31. *Notes* the International Fund for Agricultural Development initiative of organizing the first International Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, on the theme "Leveraging Innovations from the Global South to Support Rural Transformation", held in Brasilia on 20 and 21 November 2017;

32. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of such systems should be further strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

33. *Reaffirms* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a major intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together towards ensuring food security and nutrition for all, and notes the three main functions of policy convergence, lesson-sharing and progress review that the Committee performs in support of the integrated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition;

34. *Encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[24] as well as the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,[25] as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012 and 2014, respectively;

35. *Also encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2004;[30]

36. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition", unless otherwise agreed.

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

[30] E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

United Nations A/RES/72/239

General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 25

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/72/426)*]

72/239. United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028)

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the success of the International Year of Family Farming, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/222 of 22 December 2011 and implemented in 2014, which raised the profile of the role of family farming, pastoralism and smallholder farming in contributing to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition,

Welcoming the fact that many countries have made significant progress in developing public policies in favour of family farming, including the formation of national committees for family farming, and making financial inclusion policies for smallholder farmers, such as small-scale credit loans, and recognizing the role that family farms play in improving nutrition and ensuring global food security, eradicating poverty, ending hunger, conserving biodiversity, achieving environmental sustainability and helping to address migration,

Recalling the creation of the Family Farming Knowledge Platform, and recognizing that sharing knowledge and data contributes to policy dialogue and policymaking to address the specific needs of family farms,

Recognizing the important role of science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship in supporting smallholders, including pastoralists and family farmers, in particular women and youth in rural areas, and in that regard highlighting the importance of innovation-driven development and support to mass entrepreneurship and innovation, and welcoming new sustainable agricultural technologies that can contribute to the transition of smallholders from subsistence farming to innovative, commercial production, helping them to increase their own food security and nutrition, generate marketable surpluses and add value to their production,

Recognizing also the close links between family farming, the promotion and conservation of historical, cultural and natural heritage, traditional customs and

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culture, halting the loss of biodiversity and the improvement of the living conditions of people living in rural areas,

Stressing the role of different forest types, including boreal, temperate and tropical, in supporting family farming,

Reaffirming the importance of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture farms for food security and nutrition,

Noting the convening of the thirty-first session of the Regional Conference for Europe of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Voronezh, Russian Federation, in May 2018, with a focus on agricultural, food security and nutrition issues, including their links with climate change,

Mindful of the guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84 of 24 May 1989,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the proclamation of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition,[3] based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition[4] and the Framework for Action,[5]

Recalling also that nearly 80 per cent of the extreme poor live in rural areas and work in agriculture, and that devoting resources to the development of rural areas and sustainable agriculture and supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, is key to ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by, inter alia, improving the welfare of farmers,

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[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Resolution 70/259.

[4] World Health Organization, document EB/136/8, annex I.

[5] Ibid., annex II.

Recognizing that 815 million people throughout the world still suffer from hunger and that the prevalence of other forms of malnutrition is still considerable in some regions of the world, and stressing the important role of family farms in the production of more than 80 per cent of the world's food in terms of value,

Stressing that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture, family farming and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security and nutrition, and urging the adoption of national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers, especially small-scale and family farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets,

Reaffirming that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, reaffirming also the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and in this regard stressing the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, potential excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries,

Stressing the need to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and acknowledging that policies and programmes that promote innovation on family farms must go hand in hand with policies promoting overall rural development, so as to offer additional or alternative employment and income-generating opportunities in rural areas,

Recognizing the positive impacts of collaboration among family farmers through farmer-to-farmer cooperation as essential to the creation of environments conducive to supporting the exchange of experience and knowledge to scale up relevant, cost-effective, traditional and innovative solutions towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Conscious that climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet, that it is seriously affecting agriculture throughout the world and that supporting family farming could contribute to combating climate change as well as to increasing the ability to adapt to its adverse impacts and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production,

Recalling the need to strengthen our efforts to enhance food security and nutrition and to focus on smallholders and women farmers, as well as on agricultural cooperatives and farmers' networks, and the need to encourage countries to revitalize global partnerships,

Recognizing the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation in promoting family farming and addressing the problem of food insecurity through the exchange of knowledge, experience and good practices, innovative policies, know-how and resources,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 2019–2028 the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, within existing structures and available resources;

2. *Encourages* all States to develop, improve and implement public policies on family farming and share their experiences and best practices of family farming with other States;

3. *Calls upon* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to lead the implementation of the Decade, in collaboration with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including by identifying and developing possible activities and programmes, within their mandates and existing resources and through voluntary contributions, as appropriate;

4. *Invites* Governments and other relevant stakeholders, including international and regional organizations, civil society, the private sector and academia, to actively support the implementation of the Decade, including through voluntary contributions, as appropriate;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly about the implementation of the Decade on the basis of the biennial reports compiled jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

United Nations A/RES/72/240

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 63

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*on the report of the Second Committee* (A/72/428)]

72/240. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/247 of 21 December 2016, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/30 of 25 July 2017,

Recalling also its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Bearing in mind its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[2] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[3] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties, as well as to other international treaties,

Expressing its concern about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

Expressing its grave concern also about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip during the military operations of July and August 2014, which, inter alia, has polluted the environment and which negatively affects the functioning of water and sanitation systems and the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people, and stressing the urgency of the reconstruction and development of water and other vital civilian infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip,

Expressing its grave concern further about the negative impact on the environment and on reconstruction and development efforts of unexploded ordnance that remains in the Gaza Strip as a result of the conflict in July and August 2014, and commending the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations for the safe removal of such ordnance,

Expressing its grave concern about the chronic energy shortage in the Gaza Strip and its detrimental impact on the operation of water and sanitation facilities, which threaten to further erode groundwater resources, of which only 5 per cent remains potable,

Recalling the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip, and relevant reports by the United Nations country team, including "Gaza in 2020: a liveable place?", "Gaza: two years after" and "Gaza ten years later", and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations contained therein,

Deploring the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops

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[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

Recalling the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[4]

Aware of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement on all tracks, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002 and 2334 (2016), the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[5] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[6] as endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Stressing also, in this regard, the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Stressing further the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling that the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), underlined that it would not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations,

Recalling also the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note of the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and

[4] A/HRC/22/63.

[5] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[6] S/2003/529, annex.

[7] A/71/86-E/2016/13.

expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[1] and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease immediately and completely all policies and measures aimed at the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to bring a halt to all actions, including those perpetrated by Israeli settlers, harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, and to cease its demolition and confiscation of Palestinian homes and civilian infrastructure, agricultural lands and water wells, which, inter alia, have a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people, stresses the urgent need to advance reconstruction and development projects in this regard, including in the Gaza Strip, and calls for support for the necessary efforts in this regard, in line with the commitments made at, inter alia, the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to remove all obstacles to the implementation of critical environmental projects, including sewage treatment plants in the Gaza Strip and the reconstruction and development of water infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip;

9. *Also calls upon* Israel not to impede Palestinian development and export of discovered oil and natural gas reserves;

10. *Calls for* the immediate and safe removal of all unexploded ordnance in the Gaza Strip and for support for the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in this regard, and welcomes the extensive efforts exerted by the Mine Action Service to date;

11. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities and the exploitation of natural resources;

12. *Underscores*, in this regard, the call by the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), upon all States to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel

of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and with regard to the impact of such practices on the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals,[8] and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

[8] See resolution 70/1.

United Nations A/RES/72/241

General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 15

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.32 and A/72/L.32/Add.1)*]

72/241. A world against violence and violent extremism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1]

Reaffirming its resolutions 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, 36/103 of 9 December 1981, 39/11 of 12 November 1984, 49/60 of 9 December 1994, 53/243 of 13 September 1999, 55/282 of 7 September 2001, 56/6 of 9 November 2001, 60/288 of 8 September 2006, 64/14 of 10 November 2009, 66/171 of 19 December 2011, 67/99 of 14 December 2012 and 67/173, 67/178 and 67/179 of 20 December 2012 and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[2] and reaffirming also its resolution on the most recent review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[3] in which it urged Member States to unite against violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, and its resolutions 69/174 and 69/175 of 18 December 2014,

Recalling with appreciation the high-level thematic debate of the General Assembly on the topic "Promoting tolerance and reconciliation: fostering peaceful, inclusive societies and countering violent extremism", held on 21 and 22 April 2015, and the high-level conversation on religions for peace, held by the Assembly on 6 May 2016,

Reaffirming that the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter include, inter alia, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, and to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[3] Resolution 70/291.

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for all without distinction of any kind such as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Underlining that all Member States have undertaken to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Alarmed by the acts of intolerance, violent extremism, violence, including sectarian violence, and terrorism in various parts of the world, which claim innocent lives, cause destruction and displace people, and rejecting the use of violence, regardless of any motivation,

Reaffirming the commitment made by all States under the Charter to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction, and reaffirming also that States are under the obligation to protect and respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

Convinced that wars and armed conflicts can lead to radicalization and the spread of violent extremism and disrupt development of human societies and thwart the well-being of humankind,

Recognizing that a primary responsibility of each State is to ensure a peaceful and violence-free life for its people, while fully respecting their human rights without distinction of any kind, to live together in peace with its neighbours, in full respect for political independence and the principle of sovereign equality of others, and to help to maintain international peace and security,

Recalling that, as affirmed in the Preamble to the Charter, the practice of tolerance is one of the principles to be applied to attain the ends pursued by the United Nations of preventing war and maintaining peace, and convinced that the respect for and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, as well as tolerance, the recognition and appreciation of others and the ability to live together with and to listen to others, form a sound foundation of any society and of peace,

Welcoming the efforts made by the Secretary-General and his High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations to promote greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures and religions,

Reaffirming that violent extremism constitutes a serious common concern for all Member States, threatening the security and well-being of human societies, and convinced that there is no justification for violent extremism, whatever the motivation,

Recognizing the need for a comprehensive approach to preventing and countering violent extremism and to addressing the conditions conducive to its spread, and encouraged by increasing awareness in this regard,

Stressing that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat violent extremism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, and underscoring that counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law are not conflicting goals, but complementary and mutually reinforcing, and are an essential part of a successful effort to counter violent extremism,

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace, determined to condemn violent extremism, which spreads hate and threatens lives, and reaffirming that violent extremism, in all its forms and manifestations, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Recognizing also local, national, regional and multilateral initiatives aimed at addressing both directly and indirectly the grievances that drive violent extremism,

1. *Stresses* the international obligations of all States under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular refraining in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations and settling their international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter;

2. *Condemns* the targeting of civilian populations, including women and children, in violation of international law, in particular human rights and humanitarian law, including by violent extremists, as well as the attempts to disrupt and divert the popular quest for political reform, moderation and inclusive development in different societies and drive it away from the hard work of development towards violence;

3. *Deplores* attacks on religious places and shrines and cultural sites in violation of international law, in particular human rights and humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments;

4. *Urges* all Member States to unite against violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations as well as sectarian violence, encourages the efforts of leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of violent extremism and discrimination and to evolve strategies to address these causes, and underlines that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity;

5. *Stresses* that it is important that States strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and refrain from invoking any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination, as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;[4]

6. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to generate public awareness, to enlighten the public about the dangers of intolerance and sectarian violence and to react with renewed commitment and action in support of the promotion of tolerance and human rights, and invites them to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion of moderation and tolerance and respect for human rights;

7. *Calls upon* all States to respect and protect, in their fight against violent extremism, all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law and to support all actions at the local, national, regional and international levels, in cooperation with civil society, to foster understanding, tolerance and non-violence, inter alia, through programmes and institutions in the fields of education, science, culture, communication and information, strengthen democratic institutions, ensure the all-inclusiveness of the development process, eliminate all forms of intolerance and violence, eradicate poverty and illiteracy and reduce inequalities within and among nations in order to leave no one behind;

8. *Underlines* the vital importance of education, including human rights education, as the most effective means of promoting tolerance, in preventing the spread of extremism by instilling respect for life and promoting the practice of non-violence, moderation, dialogue and cooperation, and encourages all States, the specialized agencies of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour by, inter alia, placing emphasis on civic education and life skills as well as democratic principles and practices at all levels of formal, informal and non-formal education, and in this regard recognizes the effort made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including

[4] Resolution 48/104.

through its organization of the conference on the theme "Internet and the radicalization of youth: preventing, acting and living together" in Quebec City, Canada, from 30 October to 1 November 2016;

9. *Recommends* promoting community engagement in countering violent extremism, including by strengthening ties between communities and emphasizing their common bonds and interests;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to advocate for and disseminate information on tolerance and mutual respect, and underlines the potential contribution of the media and new communications technologies, including the Internet, to promoting respect for all human rights, to developing a better understanding among all religions, beliefs, cultures and peoples, to enhancing tolerance and mutual respect and thus to strengthening the rejection of violent extremism;

11. *Recognizes* the positive contribution that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression, particularly by the media and new technologies, including the Internet, and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can make to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and reiterates the need to respect the editorial independence and autonomy of the media in this regard;

12. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;

13. *Encourages* Member States to increase their understanding of the drivers of violent extremism, particularly for women and youth, so as to develop targeted and comprehensive solutions to this threat;

14. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, regional and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to fulfil, in an appropriate manner, the objectives set out in the present resolution;

15. *Notes* the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism;[5]

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared in response to its resolution 70/109 of 10 December 2015, entitled "A world against violence and violent extremism";[6]

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to recommend ways and means by which the United Nations system and the Secretariat could assist Member States, upon their request and within existing resources, in generating public awareness about the dangers of intolerance, as well as in fostering understanding and non-violence.

74th plenary meeting
20 December 2017

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[5] See A/70/674.

[6] A/72/621.

United Nations A/RES/72/242

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 177

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.38 and A/72/L.38/Add.1)*]

72/242. Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

The General Assembly,

Mindful that the impacts, opportunities and challenges of rapid technological change on sustainable development, including in cases in which changes may occur at an exponential pace, are not fully understood,

Recalling its resolutions 69/313 of 27 July 2015 and 70/1 of 25 September 2015, in which it established and launched a Technology Facilitation Mechanism to support the Sustainable Development Goals, composed of a United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, a multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and an online platform,

Recalling also its resolution 70/213 of 22 December 2015, entitled "Science, technology and innovation for development", and other relevant resolutions, and noting the work on emerging technologies by relevant United Nations entities,

Noting the Co-Chairs' summaries of the first multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation, held in New York on 6 and 7 June 2016,[1] and of the second forum, held in New York on 15 and 16 May 2017,[2] as well as the holding of the joint meeting of the Second Committee of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the theme "The future of everything — sustainable development in the age of rapid technological change", on 11 October 2017,

Recognizing the need for Governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society, the technical and academic communities and other relevant stakeholders to be aware of the impact of the latest developments in rapid technological change in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which

[1] See E/HLPF/2016/6.
[2] See E/HLPF/2017/4.

Please recycle

continue to require international and multi-stakeholder cooperation in order to benefit from opportunities and address challenges in this regard, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities,

Recognizing also the vital role that science, technology and innovation, including environmentally sound technologies, can play in development and in facilitating efforts to address global challenges, such as efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve food security and nutrition, improve agriculture, enhance access to energy and increase energy efficiency, fight diseases, improve education, protect the environment, accelerate the pace of economic diversification and transformation, improve productivity and competitiveness and ultimately support sustainable development,

Noting with concern that, recent progress notwithstanding, important and growing divides with regard to science and technology remain between and within developed and developing countries, all of which need to be addressed, inter alia, by encouraging access to science and technology for developing countries, addressing challenges to close the digital divides, ensuring an inclusive and gender-sensitive approach and promoting the empowerment of women and girls,

Recognizing that the creation, development and diffusion of innovations and new technologies and associated know-how are powerful drivers of economic growth and sustainable development, acknowledging both the transformative and disruptive potential of new technologies, particularly advances in automation, on labour markets and on the jobs of the future, and in this regard seeking to prepare societies and economies for these effects,

Recognizing also the central role that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development plays, as the United Nations focal point for science, technology and innovation for development, in analysing how science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies, serve as enablers of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[1] and in acting as a forum for strategic planning, sharing lessons learned and best practices, providing foresight about critical trends in science, technology and innovation in key sectors of the economy, the environment and society, and drawing attention to emerging and disruptive technologies,

1. *Encourages* Member States to continue considering the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,[1] in order to benefit from opportunities and address challenges in this regard, and to promote the development of national strategies and public policies, capacity-building and scientific engagement;

2. *Requests* the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, including its multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and its inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, through the Economic and Social Council, to give due consideration to the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals within their respective mandates and existing resources;

3. *Also requests* the Technology Facilitation Mechanism to present its findings, with an evidence-based approach, in this regard at its third multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation, in June 2018,

[1] Resolution 70/1.

4. *Decides* to include on the programme of the third multi-stakeholder forum a session on the impact of rapid technological change, including in cases in which changes may occur at an exponential pace, on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, to include Governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society, the technical and academic communities and other relevant stakeholders, with support for the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and to be funded from extrabudgetary resources, to discuss the findings of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism on rapid technological change, and encourages the forum and the Commission to take into account the findings therein for their consideration;

5. *Also decides* to continue discussing the topic "Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals", on an exceptional basis, at its upcoming session, at the fourth multi-stakeholder forum, in order to take stock of the outcome of the third forum, and decides to remain seized of the matter, unless otherwise agreed.

75th plenary meeting
22 December 2017

United Nations A/RES/72/243

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 65

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2017

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.39 and A/72/L.39/Add.1)]

72/243. Nelson Mandela Peace Summit

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1]

Recalling the determination of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and its purpose of maintaining international peace and security, and to that end to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to peace,

Acknowledging the calls by the Secretary-General for a renewed commitment to preventing conflict and sustaining peace with the support of prevention, conflict resolution and peacekeeping, peacebuilding, human rights and long-term development initiatives,

Recalling its resolution 64/13 of 10 November 2009, in which it, inter alia, recognized Nelson Mandela's values and his dedication to the service of humanity, as a humanitarian, in the fields of conflict resolution, race relations, promotion and protection of human rights, reconciliation, gender equality and the rights of children and other vulnerable groups, as well as the upliftment of poor and underdeveloped communities, and acknowledges his contribution to the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of the culture of peace throughout the world,

Welcoming the support of all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, for the annual commemoration of Nelson Mandela International Day,

Noting that 2018 will mark the centenary of the birth of the late Nelson Mandela,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

17-23325 (E) 260118

Please recycle

1. *Decides* to convene a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, to be known as the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, a day before the start of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-third session, which will consist of an opening plenary meeting from 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. and a plenary meeting from 10.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. focusing on global peace, in honour of the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela;

2. *Declares* that the high-level plenary meeting will be held in the General Assembly Hall;

3. *Decides* that the opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and an eminent person and a representative of civil society, both of whom are to be identified by the President of the Assembly;

4. *Also decides* that the plenary meetings will hear statements by Member States and all observers of the General Assembly, the list of speakers will be established in accordance with the rules of procedure and established practice of the Assembly and the time limits for statements will be three minutes for statements of individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

5. *Invites* all Member and observer States to participate in the high-level meeting at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government;

6. *Also invites* intergovernmental organizations and related entities that have observer status with the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level;

7. *Further invites* non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with relevant expertise to register with the Secretariat to attend the high-level meeting;

8. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, diaspora communities and migrant organizations that may attend and participate in the preparatory process, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation and with due regard to the meaningful participation of women, and to submit a list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;[2]

9. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level plenary meeting;

10. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly, at the seventy-second session, to hold open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental negotiations with all Member States and intergovernmental organizations that have observer status with the Assembly, through two co-facilitators to be appointed by the President, with a view to producing a short and concise political declaration for adoption at the opening plenary meeting of the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit;

[2] The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the state of global peace and security in line with the central mandates contained in the Charter to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session.

75th plenary meeting
22 December 2017

United Nations A/RES/72/244

General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda items 14 and 117

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 24 December 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/72/L.9)*]

72/244. Modalities for the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, entitled "New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants", and the launch of a process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration at an intergovernmental conference to be held in 2018,

Recalling also its resolution 71/280 of 6 April 2017 on the modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration,

Reaffirming that the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration would set out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions, make an important contribution to global governance and enhance coordination on international migration, present a framework for comprehensive international cooperation on migrants and human mobility, deal with all aspects of international migration, including the humanitarian, developmental, human rights-related and other aspects of migration and be guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[1] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[2] and informed by the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development adopted in October 2013,[3]

Acknowledging with appreciation the voluntary contributions received to date by the United Nations multi-partner trust fund to support the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration,

[1] Resolution 70/1.
[2] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[3] Resolution 68/4.

17-23327 (E) 250118

Please recycle

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed organization of work of the intergovernmental conference to adopt a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration;[4]

2. *Takes note* of the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Secretary-General of the intergovernmental conference to serve as focal point within the Secretariat for providing support to the organization of the conference;[5]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide appropriate support from all relevant parts of the Secretariat, and in cooperation with other relevant parts of the United Nations system, in particular the International Organization for Migration, to the work of the conference and to facilitate inter-agency cooperation to that end, as well as to ensure the efficient use of resources, so that the objectives of the conference can be achieved;

4. *Decides* that the intergovernmental conference, entitled "Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration", shall be held in Morocco on 10 and 11 December 2018;

5. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Morocco to host the Intergovernmental Conference;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision that the Intergovernmental Conference:

(a) Shall be held at the highest possible political level, including Heads of State or Government;

(b) Shall result in the adoption of an intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome, entitled "Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration", the scope of which is defined in annex II to its resolution 71/1, the negotiations for which shall be concluded by July 2018, in accordance with its resolution 71/280, and that the outcome shall be transmitted by the President of the General Assembly, during its seventy-second session, to the Intergovernmental Conference for adoption;

(c) Shall also result in summaries of the plenary meetings and other deliberations of the Intergovernmental Conference, to be included in the report of the Conference;

(d) Shall apply the modalities for participation as stated in its resolution 71/280;

7. *Decides* that the Intergovernmental Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: two Presidents, and 13 Vice-Presidents,[6] one of whom shall be designated as Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chair of the Main Committee, if established;

8. *Recommends* the provisional rules of procedure, set forth in annex to the present resolution, for adoption at the Intergovernmental Conference;

9. *Decides* that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration shall be adopted at the opening plenary meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference, on Monday, 10 December 2018;

[4] A/72/271.

[5] See letter dated 6 April 2017 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session.

[6] Three from each of the following groups: African States; Asia-Pacific States; Eastern European States; Latin American and Caribbean States; and Western European and other States. The election of the Presidents will, however, have the effect of reducing by one the number of Vice-Presidents allocated to the regions from which each of the Presidents is elected.

10. *Also decides* that the Intergovernmental Conference shall be organized in accordance with the arrangements set forth in the note by the Secretary-General, taking into account paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the present resolution;

11. *Further decides* that statements made at the opening plenary meeting, on 10 December, and at the closing plenary meeting, on 11 December, will be delivered as proposed in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the note by the Secretary-General;

12. *Decides* that the Intergovernmental Conference shall comprise eight consecutive plenary meetings and two dialogues, to be held on 10 and 11 December;

13. *Also decides* that four running plenary meetings shall be held each day, as follows:

Monday, 10 December: from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.;

Tuesday, 11 December: from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.;

14. *Further decides* that two dialogues shall be held in parallel with the plenary meetings, except during the opening and closing plenary meetings, as follows:

Monday, 10 December: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

Tuesday, 11 December: from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

15. *Decides* that the dialogues, building upon the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, have the purpose to exemplify ways and means to support the implementation of the Global Compact, and that they shall be interactive and multi-stakeholder in nature:

Dialogue 1: "Promoting action on the commitments of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration";

Dialogue 2: "Partnerships and innovative initiatives for the way forward";

16. *Invites* Member States and relevant stakeholders, in the dialogues, to consider sharing their perspectives on all dimensions of international migration, including promotion and protection of human rights of all migrants, contributions of migrants to sustainable development, shared responsibilities and opportunities, cooperation on data collection and analysis and governance;

17. *Decides* that each dialogue shall be co-chaired by two Chairs, to be appointed by the Presidents of the Intergovernmental Conference from among the high-level representatives attending the Conference, in consultation with regional groups and with due regard for geographical and gender balance;

18. *Also decides* that the dialogues shall consist of introductory remarks by the co-Chairs, a keynote address, interventions from participating States and at least three interventions from stakeholders, giving due regard to gender balance as well as situations in countries of origin, transit and destination, and requests the Secretary-General to organize the keynote speakers and stakeholders who will participate;

19. *Urges* Member States and other potential donors to consider contributing to the United Nations multi-partner trust fund to support the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, primarily to support the travel and participation of representatives from developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and also to support the activities involved in the preparations of the Intergovernmental Conference if any surplus funds remain in the voluntary trust fund.

76th plenary meeting
24 December 2017

Annex

Provisional rules of procedure for the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

I. Representation and credentials

Rule 1
Composition of delegations

The delegation of each State participating in the Conference and that of the European Union shall consist of a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Rule 2
Alternates and advisers

The head of delegation may designate an alternate representative or an adviser to act as a representative.

Rule 3
Submission of credentials

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, if possible, not less than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Union, by the President of the European Commission.

Rule 4
Credentials Committee

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its seventy-third session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

Rule 5
Provisional participation in the Conference

Pending a decision of the Conference on their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the Conference.

II. Officers

Rule 6
Elections

The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: two Presidents, each of whom shall preside separately. The Conference shall also elect 13 Vice-Presidents,[7] one of whom shall be designated as Rapporteur-General, as well as a chair for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. The officers shall be elected with a view to ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Rule 7
General powers of the presiding President

1. The Presidents shall take turns in presiding at the plenary meetings of the Conference. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the presiding President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The presiding President shall rule on points of order and, subject to those rules, shall have complete control over the proceedings and the maintenance of order thereat. The presiding President may propose to the Conference the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times each representative may speak on a question, the adjournment or closure of the debate and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

2. The presiding President remains, in the exercise of their functions, under the authority of the Conference.

Rule 8
Acting President

1. If both Presidents are to be absent from a meeting or any part thereof, they may designate one of the Vice-Presidents to preside.

2. A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Rule 9
Replacement of President or the Presidents

If either of the Presidents is unable to perform his or her functions, a new President shall be elected. If both Presidents are unable to perform their functions, new Presidents shall be elected.

Rule 10
Voting rights of the presiding President

The presiding President, or a Vice-President acting as a presiding President, shall not vote in the Conference, but may appoint another member of his or her delegation to vote in their place.

[7] Three from each of the following groups: African States; Asia-Pacific States; Eastern European States; Latin American and Caribbean States; and Western European and other States. The election of the two Presidents will, however, have the effect of reducing by one the number of Vice-Presidents allocated to the regions from which each of the Presidents is elected.

III. General Committee

Rule 11
Composition

The two Presidents, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General and the Chair of the Main Committee shall constitute the General Committee. One of the two Presidents, as agreed between them, or, in their absence, one of the Vice-Presidents designated by them, shall serve as Chair of the General Committee. The Chair of the Credentials Committee and other committees established by the Conference in accordance with rule 48 may participate, without the right to vote, in the General Committee.

Rule 12
Substitute members

If the President or a Vice-President of the Conference is to be absent during a meeting of the General Committee, he/she may designate a member of his/her delegation to sit and vote in the Committee. In case of absence, the Chair of the Main Committee shall designate the Vice-Chair of that Committee as his/her substitute. When serving on the General Committee, a Vice-Chair of the Main Committee shall not have the right to vote if he/she is a member of the same delegation as another member of the General Committee.

Rule 13
Functions

The General Committee shall assist both Presidents in the general conduct of the business of the Conference and, subject to the decisions of the Conference, shall ensure the coordination of the work of the Conference.

IV. Secretariat of the Conference

Rule 14
Duties of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations or her/his designated representative shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference and its subsidiary organs.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations may designate a member of the secretariat to act in her/his place at these meetings.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations or her/his designated representative shall direct the staff required by the Conference.

Rule 15
Duties of the secretariat of the Conference

The secretariat of the Conference shall, in accordance with the present rules:

(a) Provide simultaneous interpretation of speeches made at meetings;

(b) Receive, translate, reproduce and circulate the documents of the Conference;

(c) Publish and circulate the official documents of the Conference;

(d) Prepare and circulate records of public meetings;

(e) Make and arrange for the keeping of sound recordings of meetings;

(f) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the Conference in the archives of the United Nations;

(g) Generally perform all other work that the Conference may require.

Rule 16
Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, or any member of the Secretariat designated for that purpose, may, at any time, make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

V. Opening of the Conference

Rule 17
Temporary President

The Secretary-General of the United Nations or, in her/his absence, any member of the Secretariat designated by her/him for that purpose, shall open the first meeting of the Conference and preside until the Conference has elected its Presidents.

Rule 18
Decisions concerning organization

The Conference shall, at its first meeting:

(a) Adopt its rules of procedure;

(b) Elect its officers and constitute its subsidiary organs;

(c) Adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference;

(d) Decide on the organization of its work.

VI. Conduct of business

Rule 19
Quorum

The presiding President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

Rule 20
Speeches

1. No representative may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the presiding President. Subject to rules 21, 22 and 25 to 27 of the Conference, the presiding President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they indicate their desire to speak. The secretariat shall be in charge of drawing up a list of speakers.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Conference and the presiding President may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Conference may limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each participant may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. In any event, with the consent of the Conference, the presiding President shall limit each intervention on procedural matters to five minutes. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the presiding President shall call him/her to order without delay.

Rule 21
Points of order

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be immediately decided by the presiding President in accordance with the present rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the presiding President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the presiding President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the States present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 22
Precedence

The Chair or the Rapporteur of the Main Committee, or the representative of a subcommittee or working group, may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by the body concerned.

Rule 23
Closing of the list of speakers

During the course of a debate, the presiding President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed.

Rule 24
Right of reply

1. Notwithstanding rule 23, the presiding President shall accord the right of reply to a representative of any State participating in the Conference or of the European Union who requests it. Any other representative may be granted the opportunity to make a reply.

2. The statements made under the present rule shall normally be made at the end of the last meeting of the day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the relevant item if that is sooner.

3. Representatives of a State or of the European Union may make no more than two statements under the present rule at a given meeting on any item. The first shall be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes; representatives shall, in any event, attempt to be as brief as possible.

Rule 25
Adjournment of debate

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour and to two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 26
Closure of debate

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his/her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 27
Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

Subject to rule 38, a representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted and they shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 28
Order of motions

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the question under discussion.

Rule 29
Submission of proposals and substantive amendments

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General or his/her designated representative, who shall circulate copies to all delegations in the languages of the Conference. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, substantive proposals shall be discussed or put to a decision no earlier than 24 hours after copies have been circulated to all delegations. The presiding President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, even though those amendments have not been circulated or have been circulated only the same day.

Rule 30
Withdrawal of proposals and motions

A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before a decision on it has been taken, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Rule 31
Decisions on competence

Subject to rule 28, any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 32
Reconsideration of proposals

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the States present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded to only two speakers opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

VII. Decision-making

Rule 33
General agreement

1. The Conference shall adopt an intergovernmental negotiated and agreed outcome, entitled "Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration", and make its best endeavour to ensure that all of the other work of the Conference is accomplished by consensus.

2. Notwithstanding any measures that may be taken in compliance with paragraph 1, a proposal before the Conference shall be voted on if a representative of any State participating in the Conference so requests.

Rule 34
Voting rights

Each State participating in the Conference shall have one vote.

Rule 35
Majority required

1. Subject to rule 33, decisions of the Conference on all matters of substance shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the States present and voting.

2. Except as otherwise provided in the present rules, decisions of the Conference on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a majority of the States present and voting.

3. If the question arises whether a matter is one of procedure or of substance, the presiding President of the Conference shall rule on the question. An appeal against that ruling shall be immediately put to the vote, and the presiding President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the States present and voting.

4. If a vote is equally divided, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 36
Meaning of the phrase "States present and voting"

For the purpose of the present rules, the phrase "States present and voting" means States casting an affirmative or negative vote. States which abstain from voting shall be regarded as not voting.

Rule 37
Method of voting

1. Except as provided in rule 44, the Conference may vote by show of hands, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States participating in the Conference, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the presiding President.

The name of each State shall be called in all roll calls, and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".

2. When the Conference votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll call. A representative may request a recorded vote, which shall, unless a representative requests otherwise, be taken without calling out the names of the States participating in the Conference.

3. The vote of each State participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in any record of or report on the meeting.

Rule 38
Conduct during voting

After the presiding President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting, except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.

Rule 39
Explanation of vote

1. Representatives may make brief statements, consisting solely of explanations of vote, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The presiding President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations. The representative of a State sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

2. When the same matter is considered successively in several organs of the Conference, a State should, as far as possible, explain its vote only in one such organ, unless its vote in one organ is different from that in another organ.

Rule 40
Division of proposals

A representative may move that parts of a proposal be decided on separately. If a representative objects, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and to two opposing the division. If the motion is carried, those parts of the proposal that are subsequently approved shall be put to the Conference for decision as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Rule 41
Amendments

A proposal is considered an amendment to another proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal. Unless specified otherwise, the word "proposal" in these rules shall be regarded as including amendments.

Rule 42
Order of voting on amendments

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall

not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

Rule 43
Order of voting on proposals

1. If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Conference decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2. Revised proposals shall be voted on in the order in which the original proposals were submitted, unless the revision substantially departs from the original proposal. In that case, the original proposal shall be regarded as withdrawn and the revised proposal shall be treated as a new proposal.

3. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 44
Elections

All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate of candidates.

Rule 45
Balloting

1. When one or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast and the largest number of votes shall be elected.

2. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled.

VIII. Subsidiary organs

Rule 46
Main Committee

The Conference may establish a Main Committee.

Rule 47
Representation on the Main Committee

Each State participating in the Conference and the European Union may be represented by one representative on the Main Committee established by the Conference. They may assign to the Committee such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Rule 48
Other committees and working groups

1. In addition to the Main Committee referred to above, the Conference may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

2. Subject to the decision of the plenary of the Conference, the Main Committee may set up subcommittees and working groups.

Rule 49
Members of committees, subcommittees and working groups

1. The members of the committees and working groups of the Conference, referred to in rule 48, paragraph 1, shall be appointed by the two Presidents, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise.

2. Members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chair of the committee in question, subject to the approval of that committee, unless the committee decides otherwise.

Rule 50
Officers

Except as otherwise provided in rule 6, each committee, subcommittee and working group shall elect its own officers.

Rule 51
Quorum

1. The Chair of the Main Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one quarter of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

2. A majority of the members of the General Committee or the Credentials Committee or of any committee, subcommittee or working group shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 52
Officers, conduct of business and voting

The rules contained in sections II, VI (except rule 19) and VII above shall be applicable, mutatis mutandis, to the proceedings of committees, subcommittees and working groups, except that:

(a) The Chairs of the General Committee and the Credentials Committee and the Chairs of the committees, subcommittees and working groups may exercise the right to vote, provided that they are representatives of participating States;

(b) Decisions of committees, subcommittees and working groups shall be taken by a majority of the members present and voting, except that the reconsideration of a proposal or an amendment shall require the majority established by rule 32.

IX. Languages and records

Rule 53
Languages of the Conference

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the Conference.

Rule 54
Interpretation

1. Speeches made in a language of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other five languages.

2. A representative may speak in a language other than a language of the Conference if the delegation concerned provides for interpretation into one of the languages of the Conference.

Rule 55
Languages of official documents

Official documents of the Conference shall be made available in the languages of the Conference.

Rule 56
Sound recordings of meetings

Sound recordings of the plenary meetings of the Conference and of the meetings of the Main Committee shall be made and kept in accordance with the practice of the United Nations. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference or the Main Committee, no such recordings shall be made of any of the other meetings of the Conference.

X. Public and private meetings

General principles

Rule 57

The plenary meetings of the Conference and the meetings of any committee shall be held in public unless the body concerned decides otherwise. All decisions taken by the plenary of the Conference at a private meeting shall be announced at an early public meeting of the plenary.

Rule 58

As a general rule, meetings of the General Committee, Credentials Committee, subcommittees or working groups shall be held in private.

Rule 59
Communiqués on private meetings

At the close of a private meeting, the presiding officer of the organ concerned may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General of the United Nations or her/his designated representative.

XI. Other participants and observers

Rule 60
Intergovernmental organizations and other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and work of the General Assembly

Representatives designated by intergovernmental organizations and other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and work of the General Assembly have the right to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Rule 61
Associate members of regional commissions[8]

Representatives designated by the associate members of regional commissions listed in the footnote below may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Rule 62
Representatives of the specialized agencies and related organizations[9]

Representatives designated by the specialized agencies and related organizations may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 63
Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations

Save where otherwise specifically provided with respect to the European Union in these rules of procedure, representatives designated by other intergovernmental organizations invited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 64
Representatives of interested United Nations organs

Representatives designated by interested organs of the United Nations may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 65
Representatives of non-governmental organizations

[8] American Samoa, Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Curaçao, French Polynesia, Guadeloupe, Guam, Martinique, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands.

[9] For the purpose of the present rules, the term "related organizations" includes the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Criminal Court, the International Organization for Migration, the International Seabed Authority, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the World Trade Organization.

1. Non-governmental organizations accredited to participate in the Conference may designate representatives to attend public meetings of the Conference and the Main Committee as observers.

2. Upon the invitation of the presiding officer of the Conference and subject to the approval of the Conference, such observers may make oral statements on questions in which they have special competence. If the number of requests to speak is too large, the non-governmental organizations shall be requested to form themselves into constituencies, such constituencies to speak through spokespersons.

Rule 66
Written statements

Written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 60 to 65 shall be circulated by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and the languages in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Conference, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization must be related to the work of the Conference and be on a subject in which the organization has a special competence. Written statements shall not be made available at United Nations expense and shall not be issued as official documents.

XII. Suspension and amendment of the rules of procedure

Rule 67
Method of suspension

Any of these rules may be suspended by the Conference provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given, which may be waived if no representative objects. Any such suspension shall be limited to a specific and stated purpose and to a period required to achieve that purpose.

Rule 68
Method of amendment

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, after the General Committee has reported on the proposed amendment.